

Draft Definitions

Health

Health Care

Health Care System

Health Care Continuum

Health

- ▶ Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity.

World Health Organization (definition has not been amended since 1948)

- ▶ The condition of being sound in body, mind, or spirit; especially freedom from physical disease or pain.

Merriam Webster Medical Dictionary

- ▶ An organism's ability to efficiently respond to challenges (stressors) and effectively restore and sustain a "state of balance" known as homeostasis.

Noted as "the medical field's definition of health"
in numerous reports and web sites

Health Care

- ▶ Health care is the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disease, illness, injury, and other physical and mental impairments in humans.

Wikipedia
- ▶ Health care is the maintaining and restoration of health by the treatment and prevention of disease especially by trained and licensed professionals (as in medicine, dentistry, clinical psychology, and public health).

Merriam Webster Medical Dictionary
- ▶ “Health care” means any care, treatment, service, or procedure to maintain, diagnose, or otherwise affect an individual’s physical or mental condition.

Alaska Statute 13.52.390(16), pertaining to advance health care directives
- ▶ “Health care” means professional services rendered by a health care provider or an employee of a health care provider, and services furnished by a sanatorium, rest home, nursing home, boarding home, or other institution for the hospitalization or care of human beings.

Alaska Statute 18.23.070(2), pertaining to patient access to records
- ▶ “Health care service” means a service rendered to an individual for diagnosis, relief, or treatment of an injury, ailment, or bodily condition.

Alaska Statute 21.87.330, pertaining to hospital and medical service corporations (insurance laws)

Health Care System

- ▶ A health care system is a collection of organizations, practitioners and supporting workforce, facilities and technologies, financing mechanisms, policies, and information that provide and support the provision of health care for a population.
- ▶ People in Alaska obtain health care through three different systems: the private sector, the military and Veterans' Administration, and the Alaska Tribal Health System.

Health Care Continuum

- ▶ The health care continuum is the full array of services, from prevention to treatment to rehabilitation and maintenance, required to support optimum health of a population.

